Celebrations and festivals

1 Complete the adjectives relating to celebrations and festivals.

international involving different countries
1 m ______________ relating to a society that contains different groups of people
2 r ______________ relating to the belief in the existence of a god or gods
3 t ______________ something that hasn’t changed for a long time
4 s ______________ unrelated to any belief in the existence of a god or gods
5 l ______________ within a particular area

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the phrasal verbs in the list.

come together || dress up || hand out || join in || pack out || set off

Autumn in the UK can be an exciting time, with celebrations such as Halloween and Bonfire Night. On Halloween, children dress up in different costumes and knock on people’s doors, hoping that the people inside will (1) ______________ sweets. On Bonfire Night, people (2) ______________ by gathering round large fires and (3) ______________ fireworks. This might take place in someone’s garden, or people might (4) ______________ a large field, park or sports ground to see a firework display. It’s a great way of forgetting about winter and (5) ______________ the celebrations.

Language

3 Complete the dialogue with the words in the list.

common language || dominant language ||
local dialect || local language || non-native speakers ||
strange accent

Marco It’s great to practise speaking Spanish, isn’t it?
Ella Yes, we all understand Spanish here, so it’s our common language.

Marco I’d expected to speak English most of the time – it’s usually the (1) ______________ wherever you go. It’s a shame because, when I go abroad, I like to make an effort to speak the (2) ______________, if I can.

Ella Some people don’t understand me when I speak Spanish. They say that I’ve got a (3) ______________.

Marco I find it quite hard to understand the (4) ______________ because local people use different words and talk quickly. At least we (5) ______________ speak Spanish more slowly, even if we make mistakes!

4 Correct the underlined mistakes in the sentences.

Some people say that speaking a particular language is part of your culture identity. cultural identity
1 Spanish was the first language that I spoke – therefore, it’s my mother language. ______________
2 In the UK, English sounds different around the country because there are a lot of local languages. ______________
3 The literature works of Shakespeare introduced many new words to the English language. ______________
4 Until I learn the write system of Greek, I won’t be able to read it. ______________
5 A native learner has learnt the language from earliest childhood. ______________

Compound nouns

5 Complete the sentences with compound nouns formed with the words in A and the words in B.

A advertising || charity || family || love || party ||
snack || tooth || wheel

B bar || brush || campaigns || chair || concert ||
decorations || letter || tradition

I forgot to pack my toothbrush when we went on holiday.
1 We go to my grandmother’s house every Christmas. It’s a ______________.

2 Have you bought the balloons and other ______________ yet?

3 I often go to a ______________ when I’m in town because I get very hungry.

4 In its ______________, the company never uses fashion models who look too thin.

5 Several people complained that there was no ______________, access to the building.

6 Lydia wrote Paul a ______________, but she felt too shy to give it to him.

7 The ______________ succeeded in raising over £1,000 for disadvantaged children.